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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 25 | Min 20 | Humidity 92% Generally cloudy sky with Light rain Sensex 53,416 | Nifty 15,938 | Gold 51,220 | Silver 62,300 | Dollar 79.87 | Euro 79.73 | GBP 94.73

Citizen activists fume at BBMP floating tender to white-top perfectly fine stretch in RT Nagar

EVERYDAY IS A GRINDING ROAD

Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's decision to upgrade Taralabalu Road in RT Nagar has drawn immense criticism from residents and activists in the city.

According to them, Taralabalu Road is already in a good condition. They blamed the BBMP for wasting tax-payers' money on concretising the stretch.

Residents and activists are of the view that there is absolutely no need at the moment for the BBMP to white-top Taralabalu Road; they suggested using the funds allocated for white-topping the road to fill up potholes on the roads elsewhere in the city, so as to make commuting a bit more pleasant for motorists.

BBMP executive engineer (projects, central) floated a short term tender inviting eligible contractors for comprehensive development of the Taralabalu Road, which links Ballari Road via Chief Minister's residence to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

"There is nothing wrong in selecting Taralabalu Road for white-topping. There will be no potholes on this road for many years to come

—Lokesh, chief engineer (projects), BBMP

CITY / PAGE 9

Grain storm

Wholesalers announce weekend strike over 5% GST on unbranded grains, pulses if packed, labelled

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3 THINGS TO DO

01 Lit talk!

This Saturday, author Rituparna Chatterjee will be at Champaca signing copies of her evocative magical realism memoir, The Water Phoenix. In her memoir, she recounts the loss of her mother, her experiences of sexual abuse and mental illness, and how she found spaces to heal. Drop in with your gang to meet the author, and get yourself a signed copy! **Where: Champaca Bookstore, Queens Road; When: July 16, 3 pm**

02 Classic tunes and more

Kenneth De Souza is a self-taught musician and singer that is a familiar face to the Bengaluru music landscape. With a repertoire that covers country music, classic rock and pop from the 60's to the 90's, he is legendary in serenading music lovers for over 30 years. Back by popular demand, Kenneth will be performing for "Friday Night Unplugged @ Urban Solace" on all Fridays in July.
Where: Urban Solace, Annaswamy Mudaliar Road
When: Fridays, 7 pm–9 pm
Contact: 9845013055, 9945022177

03 Break a leg!

Learn Shuffle Dance or "'Cutting Shapes' as it is sometimes called. This dance form is characterised by quick and slick footwork, to the beats of the latest EDM music. It's a fun and upbeat dance that has many mental and physical health benefits.
Where: Lahe Lahe, Indiranagar
When: July 15, 7:30pm – 8:30 pm
Register: 9886294444

Free booster offer now stumps private hospitals

Hospitals say demand that was already low will dip further, wonder what to do with stocks

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The Centre's recent announcement that free covid-19 booster doses would be available for the 18-plus age category for the next 75 days starting from July 15, has come as a bouncer for private hospitals. Hospitals say demand for booster dose has already been low and now with the free doses being made available, demand would dip further.

Just last week, the ministry had reduced the covid-19 booster dose gap from nine to six months. The health ministry stated that the decision was taken after the National Technical Advisory Group of Immunisation had recommended this.

As of Thursday, booster doses were available free of cost to only healthcare workers and frontline workers and the elderly (those in 60+ years age group) at government vaccination centres.

With the reduction in the gap for booster dose and with the slight increase in the number of cases in Bengaluru, people had started going to private hospitals to get booster shots and demand was slowly picking up.

A member of the Private Hospital and Nursing Association (PHANA) said, "There is supply of the booster doses in the private hospitals and enquiries have been coming in.

Last week we saw a demand for the doses and hoped for it to pick up. But now with the Centre's decision, many would prefer to go to the government sectors and take it for free. We have been storing the vaccines, but have very few takers."

Due to low demand, the private centres are now redistributing vaccines amongst themselves. "When a private hospital gets enquiries for more doses and they do not have vaccines with them, they are then reaching out to other hospitals sourcing them and providing vaccines to the hospital. This way some of the centres are getting some income," said a PHANA member.

However, citizens are happy with the Centre's decision. "This would help many people in coming forward to take the booster shots. Many were hesitant to shell out money for vaccines, even for the first two shots.

People would rather wait in queues to get their vaccine shots at government centres. The rich can afford private centres, but for the poor getting it free is the only way," said a citizen.

So far the Centre has supplied 193.53 crore of vaccine doses to states and Union territories and over 9.87 crores doses have remained unutilised.

Citizens say they are happy to wait for free booster shots

Mask fines to make a comeback?

With Covid-19 cases on the rise, the Karnataka government is mulling imposing fines for not wearing masks in public places.
"I feel that masks have to be made compulsory in Bengaluru. Till now, there were no fines. We may have to think about imposing fines on people also before it gets out of hand. Ultimately, we will discuss with Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai," Karnataka Health Minister K Sudhakar told reporters.
He said in the past, too, the government had effectively made the masks compulsory during lockdown and during stringent covid-19 restrictions.
"Now that the symptoms of anybody infected is not serious or bothering people... no deaths... people not getting admitted to the ICU or requiring ventilator support, people think is like any flu," Sudhakar said.
"Covid-19 is a new disease that broke out nearly two years ago, so experts do not know much about the post-covid effect on a person," he said, adding that people need to be watchful and mindful of their actions. — PTI

Relax fire and safety norms, urge schools

The Association of Management of Primary and Secondary Schools of Karnataka has written a letter to the Additional Chief Secretary of the state requesting the relaxation of fire and building safety norms for the old school buildings.

A couple of years back, the Department of Primary and Secondary Education issued a circular mandating the schools to obtain no-objection certificates (NoC) from the Fire and Building Fitness Department.

School managements allege that the education department is trying to impose the new building safety norms on old school buildings too; an impractical move.

"Most of the school buildings built before 2018 will not be able to comply with these regulations. It is just another way for all the departments involved to collect bribes. We were asked a bribe of Rs 1 lakh for a fire safety certificate and Rs 50,000 to declare our building stable. We have written to the government requesting to relax some of the rules required for the safety certificates," said D Shashi Kumar, secretary, Association of Management of Primary and Secondary Schools of Karnataka.

School managements say that the rule is impractical & expensive

Another school management staffer said schools will not be able to incorporate these measures even if they want to.

Under the fire safety norms, the schools are required to install a water storage tank of ten-thousand-litre capacity. "Now we are supposed to renew our affiliation every year. The renewal application fee is Rs 20,000. Paying this amount every year is a huge burden for small schools," said a school representative.

Schools say while private schools are being asked to follow a never-ending list of documents required for recognition, government schools have no such mandates to follow.

"We have been asked to obtain NoCs from the fire department and PWD as part of the renewal process. In that case, why are the government schools not being put under the scanner? Should we not be concerned about the safety of the government school buildings?" asked Kumar.

This year, the education department decided to do away with these rules and ordered school administrations to submit an affidavit instead. However, all the documents will be required for the renewal process in the upcoming year. "These documents will have to be a part of the renewal process, failing which, the recognition will not be renewed," said a principal of a private unaided school. — BMB

‘Thin cushioning on floor, no docs, ambulance, stretcher’

Bereaved father of 23-yr-old kickboxer points to lapses during sporting event in city; organisers booked

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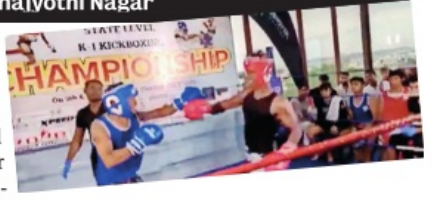
Nikhil Suresh (inset) a resident of Mysuru had come to the city to take part in the event being organised at a gym in Jnanajyothi Nagar



The untimely death of a 23-year-old kickboxer during a state-level sports event in Bengaluru has opened up a can of worms - pointing to glaring lapses in terms of absence of medical aid and paramedical staff/doctors and failure to follow all standard operating procedures to be followed mandatorily by sports organisers. Nikhil Suresh, a resident of KR Mohalla in Mysuru, who was participating in a state-level K1 Kickboxing Championship competition organised by the K1 Kickboxing Association, Karnataka, succumbed to his injuries after a fall in the ring.

The event was organised on the fifth floor of Pai International building that has a gymnasium - Rapid Fitness Gym -- in Jnanajyothi Nagar, a western suburb of Bengaluru. Nikhil was engaged in a game when he lost balance and fell on to the floor which allegedly had less cushioning. He hit his head hard though he was wearing a sports helmet and was rendered unconscious.

As there were no doctors or paramedical staff, or even a stretcher to carry him in a proper way to the hospital, people at the spot randomly carried him from the fifth floor down and as there was no ambulance, he was ferried in a jeep to a private hospital, where the doctors asked him to be shifted to another bigger hospital where he died.

Father of the victim, Suresh P (62), in his complaint to the Jnanabharathi police, stated that he was a proud father to two sons - Prajwal (28) and Nikhil (23). Suresh himself being a sportsperson wanted his sons to excel in a sport. Suresh, who was working as a private firm employee, had retired and the family were settled in Mysuru. Nikhil was enrolled with an academy of Martial Science in Mysuru and he was a part of their team that had qualified to participate in the kickboxing event in Bengaluru. On July 9, Nikhil travelled from Mysuru to Bengaluru at 5 am to participate in the state-level kickboxing championship.

On July 10, around 6 pm, Nikhil’s mother Vimala received a call from Bengaluru informing her that Nikhil had sustained injuries during the competition and had been shifted to a hospital in Bengaluru. Nikhil’s coach at the academy of Martial Science, Sri Vikram collected information from the event spot in Bengaluru and rushed to Nikhil’s house in Mysuru and informed Suresh about it.

Nikhil’s family along with his coach came to Bengaluru, by which time they got the shocking news that he had breathed his last after being shifted to Manipal Hospital at Yeshwanthpur from GM Hospital in Nagarbhavi.

The Jnanabharathi police were informed about the incident. The kickboxer’s body has been sent for postmortem.

It is said that as even a stretcher wasn’t there to carry the injured boxer, people at the spot carried him down from the 5th floor and he was ferried to the hospital in a vehicle there

Based on a complaint from Suresh, the police registered a case of accidental death due to negligence booking the K1 Indian Head Coach Naveen Ravishankar and the K1 Kickboxing, organisers of the sports event. Suresh is said to have alleged that Ravishankar had switched off his phone and remained incommunicado when he had questions to ask him as to how his son fell and died during the event.

Suresh also alleged that there were no doctors or paramedical staff at the event, there was no oxygen facility, and not even a stretcher or an ambulance.

Suresh was also wondering how his son was carried down from the fifth floor of the building to the vehicle and taken to the hospital. Based on his detailed complaint, the city police have booked the accused under 304-A and further investigations are underway.

BMTC electric bus crashes into divider

BMTC electric bus crashed into a divider at the Magadi Road tollgate underpass around 10:45 am on Thursday.

According to BMTC’s initial investigation, the cause of the accident could be driver’s negligence. The bus was en route from Vijayanagar to Hebbal. Though the bus was damaged, passengers and the driver were unhurt.

Divisional Controller North, S Chandrashekar told BM the cause of the accident has not yet been verified.

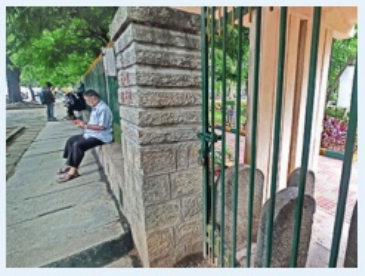
“The bus hit the divider near the right side of the road. The front portion was damaged, and all passengers and the driver escaped unscathed. The electric bus company will take care of the damages. We haven’t received the final report, but according to the initial investigation, it could be the driver’s fault,” he said.

Park timings extended

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has decided to extend the timing of public parks in the city.

According to the latest order, parks will now be open from 5 am to 8 pm. This will exclude the period between 10 am and 1.30 pm, when the parks will be shut for maintenance.

Earlier, the parks were open between 5 am and 10 am, and 4 pm and 8 pm.



Duo unleashes fury on unsuspecting advocate

Victim says bike hadn’t touched assailants’ car, but they beat him up anyway

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TWEETS @Bellie_Mirror

The Halasurugate police have arrested two men who assaulted a 46-year-old law practitioner over a road rage incident at the Police Corner Signal on Nrupathunga Road. The arrested have been identified as Ranganath Rangappa and Rakesh Rangappa who owns the Blues Cards Club in the city; both are residents of Basappa Road in Shantinagar, the police said.

In his complaint to the police, senior advocate Praveen Gowda HV had said that he was on his way from office to his home after work on Tuesday when he noticed that the driver of a Mercedes Benz SUV stopped near the Police Corner Signal was abusing someone.

Surprised, Gowda asked them whom they were abusing and the reply was, ‘it’s you!’

“My bike was at least two to three feet away from their vehicle and they alleged that I had brushed their vehicle. The driver got down and charged at me. He pulled my helmet, slapped me and then hit me up with my helmet. I was defending myself, when the other guy too came out of the car and pulled me to the footpath. He snatched my mobile and threw it on the footpath. They then punched me on the face and my tooth got chipped and I sustained a lip laceration. I was bleeding from my nose too,” Gowda told Bangalore Mirror. “They then warned me and threatened to finish me if I were to behave and speak to them,” he added.

Gowda gathered himself and decided not to retaliate at that time as he suspected the assailants could get more violent.

He picked up his broken mobile, damaged helmet and rushed to the Halasurugate police station and filed a complaint. The police registered an FIR booking the two accused persons under IPC sections 326 - voluntarily causing grievous hurt by dangerous weapons or means, 341 - wrongful constraint, 506 - criminal intimidation, and 504 - intentional insult.

> **My bike was at least two to three feet away from their vehicle and they alleged that I had brushed their vehicle. The driver charged at me**
> –Praveen Gowda, advocate

“Even though the cops had the SUV’s registration number as noted by Gowda, they could not get the address of the owner as the vehicle was registered in a company’s name. Later, the police traced the two assailants to Basappa Road in Shantinagar where Gowda lives.

The police arrested the duo, produced them before a magistrate who remanded them to judicial custody.

Miyawaki way of afforestation transforms wasteland

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Over 75,000 native saplings were added to the former dumpyard near Anekal

The abandoned quarry at Bingipura village near Anekal was littered with garbage for over 25 years. Locals had even protested about the health hazards posed by huge quantities of methane emanating from the site.

Finally, after years, the dumpyard has been converted into a Miyawaki forest.

When things were bad, locals had locked the gates to the dumpyard as it had exceeded its capacity, but despite BBMP officials intervening, rejuvenation was ultimately not carried out. A few months ago, lake activist Anand Malligavad, NGO SayTrees, and corporates came forward to create the forest, and over 75,000 native plants were added to the dump yard.

According to SayTreees, the Miyawaki method of tree plantation grows saplings 10 times faster, and the forest is 30 times denser. The forest growth in just 2 years is unimaginable.

Miyawaki is the answer to cities which are turning into concrete jungles. Small patches of forests in multiple locations within the city can act as carbon sinks.

Malligavad said, "It took five years to get approval from the authorities to have the place cleared. In March we began work. There was a lot of plastic waste. We got it cleared and then added layers of soil with clay for planting the saplings. We had to add many plants to meet the oxygen needs of people. Between March and July we managed to get 75,000 plantations done."

The Karnataka Forest Department (KFD) also came forward to plant native fauna alongside the walking track.

Once the saplings grow, the area will appear like a canopy.

Department of Social Justice and Empowerment
Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Government of India

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR EVALUATION STUDY **ON**
"RASHTRIYA VAYOSHRI YOJANA(RVY)"

RVY is a Central Sector Scheme, fully funded by the Central Government. The expenditure for implementation of the scheme is met from the 'Senior Citizens' Welfare Fund'. RVY scheme with the objective to provide Senior Citizens, belonging to BPL category and suffering from age related disabilities/ infirmities, such physical aids and assisted living devices as walking sticks, elbow crutches, walkers/ crutches, tripods/ quadpods, hearing aids, wheelchairs, artificial dentures and spectacles etc., free of cost which can help them in restoring their lives to near normalcy from such disabilities or infirmities. The Scheme is being implemented through the sole implementing agency- Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation (ALIMCO), a PSU under MoSJ&E.

Salient features of the Scheme:

1. Free of cost distribution of the devices, commensurate with the extent of disability/infirmity that is manifested among the eligible senior citizens.
2. In case of multiple disabilities/infirmities manifested in the same person, the assistive devices will be given in respect of each disability/impairment.
3. The devices help the Senior Citizens to overcome their age related physical impairment and to lead a dignified and productive life with minimal dependence on care givers or other members of the family.
4. The Scheme is being implemented through the sole implementing agency, 'Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation (ALIMCO)'.
5. ALIMCO will undertake one year free maintenance of the aids & assisted living devices.
6. Beneficiaries in each district are being identified by the State Governments/UT Administrations through a Committee chaired by the Deputy Commissioner/District Collector.
7. As far as possible, 30% of the beneficiaries in each district shall be women.
8. The State Government/UT Administration/District Level Committee can also utilize the data of BPL beneficiaries receiving Old Age Pension under the NSAP or any other Scheme of the State/UT for identification of senior citizens belonging to BPL category.
9. The devices are being distributed in Camp mode.

Important information on date and time schedule:

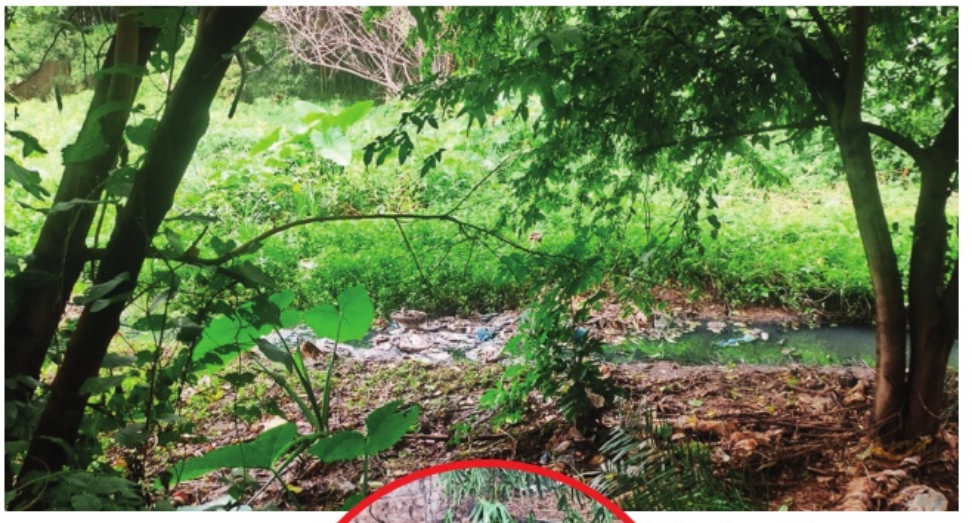
Sl. No	Particulars	Date & Time
1	Publication of EoI	11.07.2022 at 10:00 hrs
2	Pre- Bid Meeting	22.07.2022 at 15:00 hrs
3	Start date and Time of Submission of EoI	11.07.2022 at 10:00 hrs
4	End date and Time of Submission of EoI	25.08.2022 at 17:00 hrs

For more details and Expression of Interest (EoI), please visit **https://socialjustice.gov.in/** and **https://gem.gov.in/**

CBC 38101/11/0017/2223

Narsipura Lake 2 needs deep-cleaning

Residents say measures such as weeding by BBMP are not making up for the lake's de-silting needs



Narsipura 2 became a completely dysfunctional, dirty lake after the STP stopped working between 2004-2005

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In Narsipura Lake 2, walkers can be seen wearing masks while walking around the premises, but not due to Covid. It is because of the unbearable stench.

Despite the lake's condition worsening every year, BBMP officials say that they only have funds for weeding.

Spread over 15 acres, Narsipura lake 2 in Vidyaranyapura used to host boating activities and was a walker's paradise.

There was also an artificial island in the middle connected by a bridge that now lies unused.

It is difficult to even stand next to the water body today.

"The lake is in terrible shape. With no alternative, we continue to use the park. The visible water portion is only 10 per cent, and the remaining is vegetation, an indication of sewage inlet. We continue to wear masks due to the stench emanating from the lake," said Veeresh, a resident of the area.

"The primary problem is that untreated sewage is being let into the lake from MS Palya junction into the rajakaluve. When we question BBMP, they pass the buck to BWSSB, saying that the sewage inlet has to be stopped by them," said Prakash, Vice President of the BEL Layout RWA.

According to another walker, sewage entry is occurring in both the Narsipura Lakes.

"It was a good lake, but is drying up now. You can't sit in the park for more than five minutes. Mosquitoes have increased," said GS Natarajan, another resident.

"It was a good lake, but is drying up now. You can't sit in the park for more than five minutes. Mosquitoes have increased

–GS Natarajan, Resident

The situation reportedly became worse after the lake got an STP and became dysfunctional between 2004-2005.

"After the STP stopped working, the situation became worse. As the STP land belonged to BWSSB and lake areas remained with BBMP, there was no action to remedy this. Once the STP stopped working, the entire area was covered with the stench, which also led to mosquitoes. We could not sit outside or leave the door open in the evenings," said H Gopalakrishna, a resident and regular walker.

The STP was built for only a few households, becoming dysfunctional after the number of houses increased with time.

In the span of over 15 years, the lake has reportedly not been de-silted even once. Residents say that whenever they make a ruckus about the lake's condition, officials come for weeding, making only cosmetic corrections.

According to lake experts, the problem lies in the calculations of the inlet weir.

"The inlet weir should be constructed in a way that sewage is diverted through the diversion channel, and when there is more than 10-15 mm rain, it should overflow into the lake. Due to incorrect calculations and infrequent maintenance, waste started accumulating. The solution would be to introduce sluice gates to control sewage entry," said Co-founder of Friends of Lakes, Ram Prasad.

To prevent sewage entry, the height of the weir was increased, and now the lake has stopped receiving sufficient rainwater through drains as well, added Prasad.

Prasad further added that end-mouth STPs should be avoided.

"We should only engage in sewage mining, and the remaining should be bypassed to other STPs," he said.

The lake was rejuvenated twice, with the last one being done in 2010.

According to sources, there was also a proposal to pump in treated water from the 10 MLD Doddabommasandra STP.

When BM spoke to BBMP officials regarding the lake's rejuvenation, officials cited a shortage of funds, saying only weeding was possible.

"We put a wall at the inlet to divert the sewage and that issue has been fixed. Cleaning of the lake has also started. Around 10 labourers are engaged in weeding. However, we are only maintaining the lake. We don't have funds," said a BBMP official.

Wide shot at decongesting Hebbal flyover

BBMP Chief says tenders for 10-lane widening to be called soon

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With South Western Railways (SWR) shooting down the proposal of a railway underpass near Hebbal flyover, the only option left is to widen the congested four-lane flyover.

BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said that Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai has given approval in principle for a 10-lane widening, and tenders will be called soon. The flyover, commonly termed 'gateway to Bengaluru' is choc-a-bloc during peak hours. Recently, traffic police and BBMP tried to take up short term measures which have not yielded desired results.

Nath said, "One of the proposals was to construct a level crossing (LC) below the flyover (across the Hebbal-Baiyappanahalli railway line). The railway officials who inspected the spot said that the LC was closed more than a decade back and it would be difficult to reopen it. However, officials said that the BBMP could look at constructing an underpass. The BBMP is facing challenges to do so because if an underpass is constructed, a separate road has to be made for the neighbouring homes where land acquisition is required. It is better to widen the flyover."

For the last few years, traffic police had multiple discussions with the Bengaluru Development Authority and Railways. A spot inspection was conducted many times earlier for reopening the LC to allow the traffic to pass through for easing congestion on the flyover.

A senior police officer said, "After studying the traffic pattern, we have realised that the major problem is at the intersection of the KR Puram loop and the main carriageway. Vehicles from Nagawara merge with airport traffic here, leading to a huge gridlock, which sometimes extends to half a kilometre. Additionally, the six-lane road with a service road narrows down to an almost two-lane way. So, if the road below the flyover (which was abandoned after its inauguration) can be reopened, we can allow the KR Puram traffic (heading towards Bengaluru city) to be re-routed. Commuters can get a free left towards Hebbal then." Railway officials said that the Hebbal Banaswadi Railway Line which passes beneath the flyover is not as congested as other dense railway lines. More than 20 trains cross this stretch apart from goods and other special trains.

However, urban experts say that the traffic from around 10 lanes merges into two lanes at Hebbal flyover, causing a bottleneck. Any move to create additional capacity can provide temporary relief, but for a long-term solution, one has to look at reducing the number of vehicles and improving public transport.

The history of Hebbal flyover

The Hebbal flyover was thrown open to traffic on May 29, 2003.

Before this, the Hebbal junction had little or no traffic except for the occasional hold up at the railway level crossing.

However, things changed when the BDA constructed the Outer Ring Road via Hebbal. With the airport shifting from HAL to Devanahalli, traffic on this route increased exponentially, and the Hebbal flyover was congested at all times.

After 18 years, the authorities want to revert to the old method of allowing traffic at the level crossing below.

Hebbal flyover, commonly refered to as the 'gateway to Bengaluru' is choc-a-bloc during peak hours

Onus of getting aid on flood victims?

Garima Prasher
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While the state government is busy announcing funds to restore public infrastructure damaged in heavy rains and floods, many city slum dwellers are still awaiting their relief fund of Rs 25,000 each.

As many as 58 applications were filed from the Nagamma Nagar Slum Colony in Cottonpet for relief after the incessant rain on May 3. 22 applications were approved for the fund, but the compensation amount is yet to be credited to their accounts.

"We are following up daily with the officials from the revenue department. However, we are being told that the applications are either still processing or have been declined due to some issues with documentation. While they had told us that 22 applications out of 58 have been approved, we have not received funds for even a single application," said Rajesh, a resident of the slum.

BangaloreMirror
Slum of all fears
Displaced of May 3 flash flood still await relief as monsoon looms over Bengaluru skyline

BM reported about aid delay on June 5

At another cluster of three slums near Mysuru Road, 298 applications were submitted, but only around 200 beneficiaries have received compensation so far.

"Around 200 beneficiaries from the cluster of slums including Sanjay Nagar, MCT, and Narsimhaiah Colony received the relief fund a few days back. However, many from these slums are still waiting. We have reached out to the officials many times, but we are not aware of the reason behind the delay," said Manjula, a resident of Narsimhaiah Colony Slum.

Organisations working towards the upliftment of those living in urban slum localities say the current process of identifying beneficiaries and releasing funds is cumbersome and puts the onus of the process on the victims.

"It is an emergency fund and should be released immediately. While the relief has not reached the needy even after two months in this case, the system is busy finding faults with the documents submitted by the people who were on the receiving end," said a representative belonging to a city-based organisation.

To avail the relief fund, the slum dwellers were asked to upload GPS-tagged pictures of their inundated houses.

Many of them failed to do so, which is why their applications were rejected by concerned authorities.

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Monsoon not taking a rain check
Landslide in Shiradi ghat blocks heavy goods traffic
PG 7

Traffic snarls? These grid mats might help

At RMZ Eco World, unique grid mats were laid to smoothen the road and reduce traffic congestion; these mats are durable, eco-friendly and cheap

Iffath.Fathima
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

If you commute past RMZ Eco World daily, you would be no stranger to the long, never-ending traffic lines that form during rush hour. With the city shifting back to pre-covid times, traffic is once again at its worst and citizens want a way out. To solve this, a first of its kind solution was tried at RMZ Eco World where grid mats were laid, giving the look of a concrete road. Many say that this has helped in improving the traffic.

The project was undertaken under the partnership with PotHoleRaja, ORR companies and Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). The GridMats is a revolutionary patented product that's eco-friendly, durable and crafted entirely from 100 per cent recycled plastic waste to construct pavements/roads.

Made from recycled polypropylene, GridMats are placed above the bedding layer and packed with different filling options, creating a permanent, flat, high-quality surface in less than half the time, and at 20 per cent-25 per cent cheaper the cost.

The GridMats are said to be effective even for drainage and it would not create any puddles or slush. Unlike the normal asphalted roads which were out in no time, leading to potholes in many stretches.

The durability of it is said to last for over 30 years and the permeability up to 96 per cent. It is low in maintenance, with only some fillings to be carried out, once it starts coming off.

During rush hour, the roads are chock-a-block with traffic near Eco World and Bellandur

Made from recycled polypropylene, GridMats are placed above the bedding layer and packed with different filling options and are effective for drainage too

Sourabh Kumar, Director of PotHole Raja said, "Currently, commuters exiting Eco World to go towards Marathahalli have to take a big U turn at Bellandur and the ones who are entering Eco World from outer ring road face a lot of inconvenience due to the traffic pile up in the area. This pile up is primarily due to commuters having to take a U-turn in a congested junction. A well-designed connecting road directly to Eco World will cut down on commute time to a great extent."

Kumar added that in this project, through our GridMats, they have used around 3,000 kg of plastic waste in building this road. It consumes 30 per cent less water than traditional concrete roads and it does not require any steel reinforcement.

"Traditional concrete road technology would have emitted 46.5 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions to complete this construction, however our GridMats produce only 11.9 tonnes—a significant reduction when compared to the conventional method. We have cut down on close to 34.6 tonnes of CO2e (Carbon Dioxide equivalent emissions) which is the equivalent of emissions produced by driving a car for 1,38,600 km."

'Why white-top a tip-top road?'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Rabindranath Tagore Circle, and RT Nagar Main Road to Citizen Park, at an estimated cost of Rs 2,532.31 lakh. The last date to submit tenders is on or before July 22; subsequently, the technical bids would be opened at 4.30 pm on July 25.

Residents of RT Nagar said the Rabindranath Tagore Circle was developed recently and there was no need to white-top Taralabalu Road as it has no potholes or any such damage. "There are many roads in the city that require urgent attention of the BBMP authorities. I suggest the BBMP focus on filling potholes and craters on the roads that were neglected for quite some time. Spending crores of rupees for white-topping Taralabalu Road is wasting tax-payers' money," said Suresh N, a resident.

Meanwhile, social activist Saidatta criticised the BBMP for neglecting many roads in other areas and allegedly trying to please the Chief Minister and other very important persons residing in RT Nagar. He termed the decision to white-top Taralabalu Road as an attempt to get appreciation from the Chief Minister.

"It has become a habit for the BBMP engineers to select roads in a good condition for white-topping. On the contrary, BBMP engineers are not even taking measures to lay proper roads in areas that were brought under the BBMP's jurisdiction more than a decade ago. I think these engineers are trying their best to impress the Chief Minister by selecting Taralabalu Road for white-topping," said Saidatta.

However, BBMP chief engineer (projects) Lokesh said Taralabalu Road is one of the important roads that links to Ballari Road.

"We have selected this road for white-topping for the benefit of motorists. There will be no potholes on this road for many years in future. There is nothing wrong in selecting Taralabalu Road for white-topping," said Lokesh.

MG Road's footpath, only in name

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@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

In Bengaluru, there is an old saying which says that one walks on the footpath, or what's left of it. On MG Road, pedestrians are now having a tough time negotiating a dug-up footpath next to Mayo Mall. The footpath has been in this condition for more than two to three months ever since it was dug to lay wires, they said.

Maheshwari Rai, a pedestrian, said, "This is right in the heart of the city and still it is in this condition. There is always heavy traffic on this side and on top of that people are not able to use the footpath. It is not at all disabled friendly nor is it safe for kids."

Pedestrians' worst nightmare: People use the road in the absence of space; it is risky for elderly and children especially during traffic

"There is always heavy traffic on this side. It is not at all disabled-friendly nor is it safe for kids

– Maheshwari Rai, a pedestrian

Saumith Pal, another pedestrian, told Bangalore Mirror that the work has been going on for more than three months. "It is very inconvenient for all. The people who use this footpath after crossing the road struggle to find their feet amid all the traffic and parked vehicles."

Commuters say that they tried to raise a complaint about this issue in the Sahaaya app created by BBMP. However, the app threw up a message that the complaint was "non-relevant".

They also said that apart from the dug-up portion, several poles too had taken up space on the footpath.

Raghavendra B Pacchapur, who works with the NGO ActionAid India, said, "The footpath has different kinds of poles in the way, some for traffic or for CCTV cameras. This takes up all the space and people are left with no space to walk. The authorities should not permit such things on the footpath."

Mallika Chacko, another pedestrian, said the poles make the footpath more dangerous as one could walk right into them if one is not careful all the time.

Residents of the area also said that kids who often use the footpath are the most vulnerable.

A BBMP official said efforts to repair the footpath would be made.

Monsoon not taking a rain check

Vehicle movement is restricted on the Shiradi Ghat road after the collapse of a retention wall in Donigal

Landslide in Shiradi ghat blocks heavy goods traffic

Heavy traffic has been barred in the Shiradi Ghat region following landslides on Thursday. A week ago, a portion of the road collapsed near Donigal. Last year too, the road had collapsed at the same place on National Highway 75, which connects the capital Bengaluru with the port city of Mangaluru.

Authorities are allowing light vehicles movement on one-way. As a result, the traffic was piled up for a long distance. Meanwhile, there was a minor landslide near Somanakadu on Charmadi Ghat Road. However, traffic has not been affected.

Monsoon active

The southwest monsoon was active over the State. Very heavy rainfall was recorded at many places including Bhagamandala (Kodagu) 19 cm; Kottigehara (Chikkamagaluru) 15 cm; Castle Rock (Uttara Kannada) 14 cm; Sringeri, Kalasa and Koppa (all Chikkamagaluru) 13 each; Siddapura (Udupi) and Somwarpet (Kodagu) 12 cm each.

Met dept has predicted very light to light rains likely over BBMP area. Temperature will be around 20-25 degree C

The Met department has predicted very light to light rains likely over BBMP area. The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be around 25 and 20 degree Celsius respectively. Widespread moderate to heavy rains with isolated very heavy rains is likely over Coastal Karnataka districts; widespread very light to moderate rains with isolated heavy rains are likely over Malnad and north interior districts and isolated to widespread very light to light rains are likely over south interior districts.

South Interior

Widespread very light to light rains likely over Davanagere districts and isolated to scattered very light rains to light rains likely over remaining districts of the region.

North Interior

Widespread very light to moderate rains with isolated heavy rains likely over Belagavi district and widespread very light to moderate rains likely over remaining districts of the region.

Malnad

Widespread very light to moderate rains with isolated heavy rains likely over Chikkamagaluru, Kodagu, Hassan and Shivamogga districts.

Coastal

Widespread moderate to heavy rains with isolated very heavy rains likely over Udupi, Dakshina Kannada and Uttara Kannada districts.

—BMB

CITY PAGE 3 Lapses at boxing event?

HC: Can officers boldly probe ADGP?

Can lower rung officers boldly investigate the police sub-inspector recruitment (PSI) scam case when the ADGP is an accused? the Karnataka High Court questioned the state government on Thursday.

Justice HP Sandesh posed the query during the hearing of bail petitions of some of the accused in the case. ADGP (Recruitment) Amrit Paul was arrested in connection with the scam on July 4. The court sought to know from the government advocate if lower ranked officers would investigate the matter involving an official of the ADGP rank without fear and in a fair manner. "How can we expect a fair investigation?" the judge asked.

In his response, the government advocate said the DGP of the CID was personally overseeing the inquiry. "This is nothing but a case of the fence eating the crop," the court said and questioned why the ADGP has not yet been produced before the court to record his statement even after 10 days of arrest.

The government advocate then said thousands of call records are being processed and it was taking time. The accounts of the arrested ADGP were frozen and search and seizure was conducted at his residence. Asked about the progress in the investigation, the court was informed that several persons including the ADGP (recruitment), two DSP, two police inspectors have been arrested. The single-judge bench was today hearing the bail petitions of CN Shashidhar, Raghuveer H and

Court was hearing bail pleas of some of those accused in PSI recruitment scam case

other accused in the scam. These PSI candidates were arrested for cheating in the exams. The prosecution strongly opposed their bail pleas. During the conclusion of the hearing of the bail petitions, when a person appeared on video conference to speak, the judge stopped him and said if he had any grouse he had to file an application.

The bail petition was adjourned to July 20. PTI

FROM THE WRITER & THE DIRECTOR OF "RAAZ" COMES ANOTHER TALE OF LOVE & FEAR
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Cinépolis — Orion Mall - Whitefield | ETA Namma Mall - Binneypet | Royal Meenakshi Mall - Bannergatta Road | Fun Cinema | SJR Central Mall | City Centre Mall - Mangaluru | Hubli.

INOX — Brookfield | Garuda Mall - Magrath Road | Mantri Square Mall | Central Mall - JP Nagar | Swagath Mall - Jayanagar | Value Mall | Lido - Ulsoor | Central Mall - Manipal | RMZ Mall - Yalahanka | Belgaum | Sathyam - Mysuru | Garuda - Yalahanka.

GOPALAN — Innovation Mall - Bannerghattha Road | Signature Mall : 12.30 pm | Grand Mall - C V Raman Nagar | ARCH Mall | Legacy Mall : 2.45 pm.

Marathahalli : 1.45 & 7.15 pm. | KIN CINEMAS Seegehalli Road | ROCKLINE CINEMAS Jalahalli Cross

MOVIETIME Devangere | DRC Mysuru | VISION CINEMAS Mysuru | ABHINAY K.G Road [2 shows]

Bharath Cinemas — Mangaluru | Manipal : 2 shows Shimoga | Kundapur | KRISHNA Tumkur [2 shows]. | VINAYAKA DJ Halli [4 shows].

SANTOSH R.P.C Layout [4 shows]. | BALAJI DELUXE Mysuru [4 shows]. | ANAND Tannery Road [4 shows].

and other cinemas.

PARAS

PVR CINEMAS {Phoenix Market City, 9:05, 1:05, 4:50, 7:20, 10:15 p.m. | Forum Mall, 9:25, 1:25, 3:20, 3:55, 7:35, 9:45, 10:15 p.m. | Orion Mall, 9:30, 10:00, 12:50, 4:40, 7:15, 7:35, 10:30 p.m. | Orion Uptown Mall, 9:10, 1:50, 6:35, 9:30 p.m. | MSR Regalia Mall, 10:40, 1:35, 4:20, 7:20, 10:00 p.m. | Spirit Mall, 9:10, 4:10, 10:20 p.m. | VR Mall, 9:55, 12:50, 1:25, 3:45, 6:50, 7:35, 10:00, 10:30 p.m. | Vaishnavi Saphire Mall, 10:30, 1:55, 3:40, 10:00 p.m. | Vega City Mall, 9:35, 9:45, 1:05, 1:10, 4:00, 6:55, 7:20, 9:50 p.m. | The Cinema @ GT Mall, Magadi Road, 9:45, 1:35, 7:25 p.m. | The Aura, Whitefield, 4:00, 7:15 p.m.} | INOX {Garuda Mall, 9:30, 2:40, 7:05, 10:10 p.m. | Swagath Mall, 10:15, 4:10, 10:00 p.m. | Central Mall, JP Nagar, 10:00, 3:45, 9:30 p.m. | Lido, 9:00, 5:05, 10:20 p.m. | Forum Value Mall, 10:00, 1:35, 7:10, 10:20 p.m. | Mantri Mall, 10:30, 3:50, 7:25, 9:50 p.m. | Brookefield Mall, 9:00, 4:40, 10:10 p.m. | SBR Horizon, Seegehalli, 10:00, 12:55, 7:05, 10:00 p.m. | Garuda, Yelahanka, 9:40, 3:50, 10:00 p.m. | Galleria Mall, RMZ Yelahanka, 9:50, 12:45, 6:55, 9:50 p.m.} | CINEPOLIS {Royal Meenakshi Mall, 9:40, 3:50, 10:00 p.m. | ETA Mall, Binny Mill, 9:40, 12:55, 7:05, 10:10 p.m. | East Orion Mall, 10:00, 1:00, 10:25 p.m. | Shantiniketan, 9:40, 1:15, 7:25, 10:00 p.m. | SJR Spectrum Mall, 12:55, 7:05 p.m. | Sigma Mall, 10:00, 7:00 p.m.} | GOPALAN {Innovation Mall, 1:45, 9:30 p.m.} | INNOVATIVE MULTIPLEX {Marathahalli, 11:00, 4:30, 9:45 p.m.} | ROCKLINE CINEMA {Peenya, 4:10, 9:45 p.m.} | CINEPOLIS {City Centre Mall, Mangalore, 10:00, 1:15, 7:25 p.m.} | PVR CINEMAS {Fiza Mall, Mangalore, 1:25, 4:05, 7:35, 10:15 p.m. | Forum Mall, Mysore, 12:55, 3:35, 7:05, 9:45 p.m. | Garuda Mall, Mysore, 12:50, 3:45, 10:10 p.m.} | INOX {Satyam Mall, Mysore, 10:25, 4:10, 10:10 p.m. | Tumakuru S Mall, 10:00, 1:00, 7:10, 10:10 p.m.} | CINE GALAXY {Mangalore, 1:20, 4:20, 10:20 p.m.} | BHARATH CINEMAS {Mangalore, 10:30, 7:30 p.m.} | DRC CINEMAS {Mysore, 7:05 p.m.} | SHOBHA THEATRE {Mysore Road} | MOVIETIME {Davangere, 3:00, 10:55 p.m.}.

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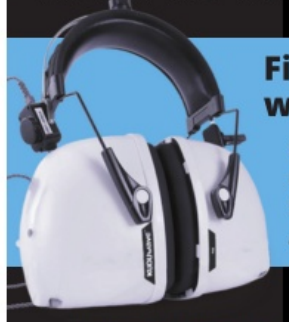

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Entry Free!
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Fashion Accessories | Home Decor & More
FOOD MUSIC
(10 Days Exhibition) 90+ Stalls
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Also open on Sunday!
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Swimming pool & multi-gym inside park is against rules, says HC

The Karnataka High Court has ordered the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) against constructing a swimming pool or gym inside the Gayathridevi park in Rajajinagar. Allowing a public interest litigation (PIL), a division bench of the HC said such constructions are prohibited under the Karnataka Parks, Playfields and Open Space (Preservation and Regulation) Act 1985 (Section 8 (1) and Rules 1985 (Rule 6).
The Bench comprised Acting Chief Justice Alok Aradhe and Justice JM Kazi. The park is also known as the Mariyappana Palya Park, is in BBMP Ward 98, Prakashnagar. Local residents, J Srinivas, R Lakshminarayan, BS Praveen Kumar and B K Harish Kumar had filed the PIL. Advocate G R Mohan had alleged that based on proposals given by the 'land mafia,' the BBMP was trying to construct "at a cost of Rs.6 crore, swimming pool, sports complex, multi gym, squash court and 26 gazebos." PTI

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, NAVEEN CHELLIAH DANASINGH DAVID, S/o, Danasingh David residing at No.5061, Sobha Silicon Oasis, Doddanagamangala Road, Beratena Agrahara, Bangalore 560100 have changed my name to NAVEEN CHELLIAH DANASINGH vide affidavit dated 14/07/2022 sworn before notary B V Nagabhushana, Bangalore.

I, SUSMITA BANERJEE W/o AsisKumar Gangopadhyay residing at #302, Saptagiri Sannidhi, Lakshmi Narasimha Swami Temple Road, B Block, Munnekolala, Bangalore North Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560037 have changed my name to SUSMITA GANGULY vide affid avit dated 13.07.2022 sworn before notary Indira S.S, B.lore

WE, Jeevana Latha Mamillapalli and Siva Kumar Mamillapalli, R/a Flat No.201, Felix Heights, Bhoganahalli, B'lore-103 have changed our son name from Mamillapalli Lakshmi Sai Preetham to Sai Preetham Mamillapalli vide affidavit dt 14.07.22, before Notary B.M.Chandrashekar

I Lourdu Raju Pasala Sundararao Pasala, S/o Lourdu Rajulu Pasala, R/o #152, Yuva Vikas,tankbund Road, Balaji Nagar, Dharmaram College, Bengaluru 560029 Have Changed My Name to Sundara Rao Pasala.

I MONIKA KUMARI C/O Aniket Burman, No. 1490, 5th Cross 29th Main BTM Layout 2nd Stage, Bangalore South, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560076, have changed my name to MONIKA BURMAN

I, NIKHIL PATTAN, S/o, Mahantesh residing at No. 48, 2nd Floor, 11th Main Road, BTM Layout 1st Stage, Bangalore 560029 have changed my name to NIKHIL MAHANTESH PATTAN vide affidavit dated 14/07/2022 sworn before notary B V Nagabhushana, Bangalore.

I, Shazia Begum D/o M Ghouse khan R/o No 65, 2nd cross, grace town , hennur main road. Bangalore-43 Declare that Shazia Begum, Shazia Harris and Shazia Ronak shrivastava all names belongs to same person .

I Beena Kavelchand Jain R/o A-25, Sai Sumukha Sterling Apartment, Dasarahalli Main Road, Near H. A Farm Post, Behind Karagadamma Temple, Bangalore-560024 have changed my name to Beena Kavelchand for all purposes.

I, Shajadi Bi W/o Mohammed khalander sab R/o No15 Nimballi mayasandra Turuvekere TQ Dasihalli PO Tumkuru 572221 have changed my name to Shazadi Bi and Dob 01/01/1946 instead of 01/01/1957

I Prathibha Suraj Kangokar D/O, Lakshmi Narasimha Gowda Hk R/o 436, 3rd Cross, Chikkamaranahalli, Devasandra, New Bel Road, Bangalore-560054, have changed my name to Prathibha Lakshmi for all purposes.

I Madan Bangalore Umakanth S/O, Umakanth Muniyappa R/o No. 1534/f, G-a Sri Akshya Krishna Residency, 2nd Cross, 2nd Phase, J.P. Nagar, Bengaluru - 560078, have changed my name to Madan Umakanth for all purposes.

I, Naveen Kumar S/O, Dayanand Nandihal R/o #259, 6th Cross, 7th Main, Venkatapura Extension, Koramangala, have changed my name to D. N. Naveen Kumar for all purposes.

GET NOTICED

'Grains, pulses are staple need of people'

Say association leaders who plan to stop supply for 2 days to protest imposition of GST on labelled products

If packed and labelled, unbranded grains and pulses will cost more with imposition of 5% GST

Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Bengaloreans may have to face a bit of difficulty finding stock of grain and pulses as wholesale sellers are going on a shutter strike over the imposition of GST on unbranded rice and grains over the weekend. As per the notification, customers will have to shell out 5% GST on unbranded grains and pulses if they are packed and labelled.

The protest held by various grain and pulses associations will be held on July 15 and 16, demanding a complete withdrawal of the GST imposition.

"We will be closing down all activities in markets and no sale, transit or production will take place. The smaller retail shops also won't be supplied with the stock," said Srinivas Rao, Vice President of Karnataka State Rice Millers Association.

The protest will be part of the pan-Karnataka protest spanning over 29 districts.

The association highlighted that previously staple foods were exempted from tax. "Basic food commodity like grains and pulses was exempted from taxes for centuries. It's the staple need of consumers. It will have a widespread effect on consumers, farmers, and traders," added Rao.

As per the notification for the GST imposition, only unbranded food that is labelled and packed is being taken into consideration for GST but traders question how can they sell food products without labelling or packing. " In the food industry, it's impossible for us to sell without labels. For the consumers and dealers, we have to establish a quality mark. It would be negligent to not put labels," added Rao.

> **We will be closing down all activities in markets and no sale, transit or production will take place. Smaller retail shops also won't be supplied with stock**
> –Srinivas Rao, Rice Millers Association

Traders say that the profit margin of the industry remains at 1 per cent and this GST is going to impose a mighty burden on their shoulders and will be forcing them to shift the burden to consumers.

"We only have a profit margin of 1-2 % so GST of 5% is too high. Being a basic food product, our volumes are high but the margin is low. It's going to be tough on traders to collect the GST from consumers," added Rao.

Traders also added that they were just beginning to recover from covid restrictions and the government has chosen to impose this burden on them. While the pandemic saw no decrease in food consumption, the rice association highlighted that the state government's decision to import and supply food grain has added to their woes. "Karnataka is not a state that sells to the government. In the last two years, the government has been supplying to 70% of the people by importing from other states," added Rao.

" We want to highlight through the protest how the consumers will be most affected by this imposition. This will affect the common man. Only 10 per cent of goods are unbranded and people have been operating without brands. Before we hike the prices for the consumer, we want to highlight the issue. In India, people are dependent on these commodities thrice a day and soon everything you eat will be taxed. Even today 60-70% of the market is an unorganised sector and this will vastly affect the small retail shops," said Ramesh Chandra Lahoti, Vice President of the Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry(FKCCI).

Traders also questioned why basic food commodities are taxed at 5% while gold remains at 3% still. "Price of all commodities has been hiked but now if essential commodities are going to be hiked, it is going to be an additional burden. Farmers will also be given a lower price due to the GST. No Central or State Government has levied taxes on food commodities so far. Despite covid, we cooperated with government regulations and timings to supply grain to people. There were also a few instances of even police lathi charging the suppliers. We want unbranded food commodities to remain tax-free," said Prasanna, a member of the Grain Merchants Association.

Eateries to wait & watch

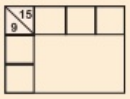
However, despite the possible hike, the hotel industry has decided not to up their prices as of now. "The GST imposition will be an added burden. We will have to collect from the customer and pay GST. Currently, less than Rs 1,000 rent will attract 12 per cent GST which will affect smaller hotels. But we have decided not to hike prices as of now," said PC Rao, President of Bruhat Bangalore Hotels Association.

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

What is the next number of the following sequence.
.5, 2, 6.5, 20, ...

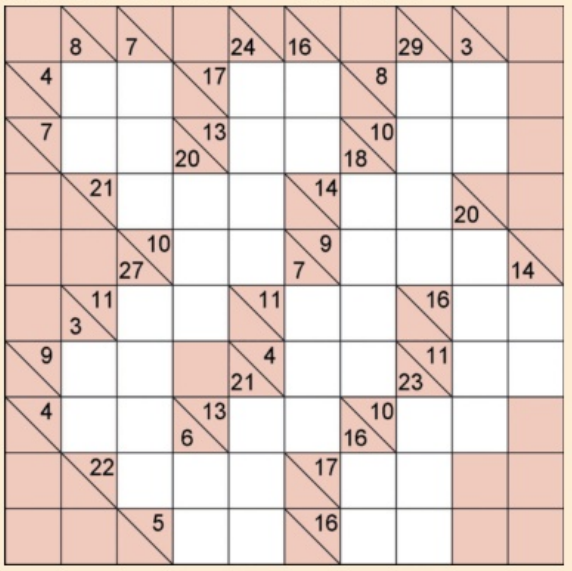
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

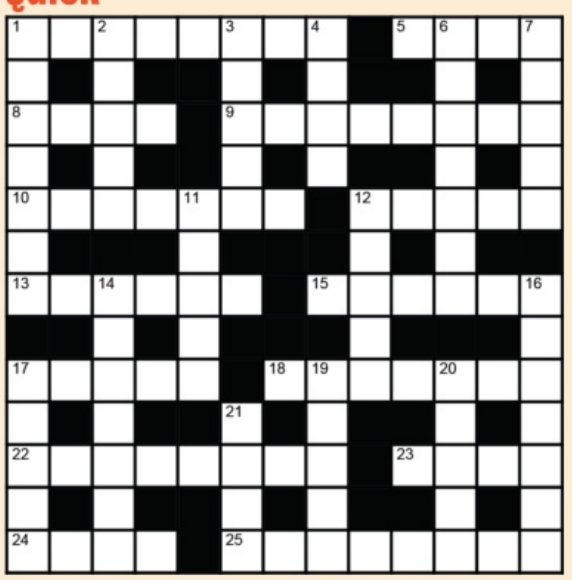


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 A state of trouble (3,5)
5 Remain (4)
8 Food (informal) (4)
9 Mbappe's metier? (8)
10 Slander (7)
12 Denim pants (5)
13 Tribute (6)
15 Odours (6)
17 A mammary gland ? (5)
18 Ms Sharma of Bollywood (7)
22 Wavering; undecided (8)
23 Popular pub in Indira Nagar (4)
24 Sunbeams? (4)
25 Bach or Brahms? (8)

DOWN

1 Meaningless talk (7)
2 Former US President Donald ___ (5)
3 Spats (5)
4 Origin or source (4)
6 Painful exertion (7)
7 Shouts (5)
11 Mr. Waters of Pink Floyd (5)
12 J in J & K? (5)
14 Simplicity or prudery (7)
16 Appetizer (7)
17 Doorkeeper (5)
19 Dorsal surface of an insect's thorax (5)
20 Boos or jeers? (5)
21 Bathroom powder (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Z EQUALS G

RTKX WV JKWQ KXWVWQZ RXEP GDT KQGWYWJKGWEQ ER TMWH.

Linemaro

I need you like the roses need rain, the poet needs pain

Mindchow

Big cities have a trip-hammer vitality which drives you insane with restlessness if you have no inner stabiliser

Joke of the day

Does water always come through the roof in this place?"
"No, sir, only when it rains."

Loop

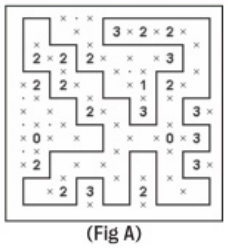
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

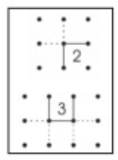
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

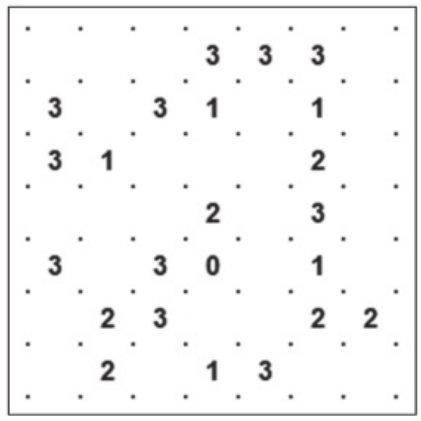
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



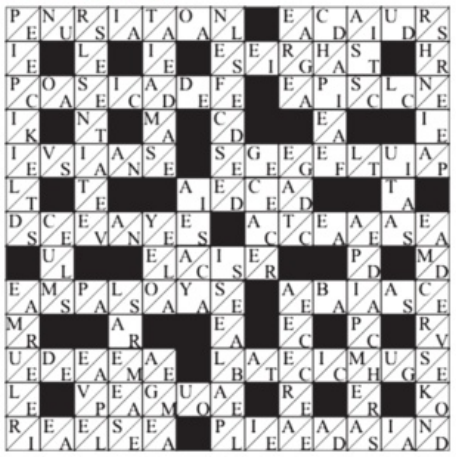
(Fig A)



(Fig B)
Not Allowed



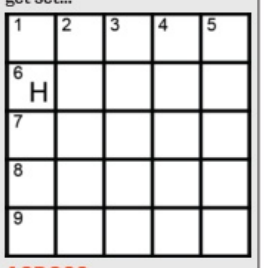
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

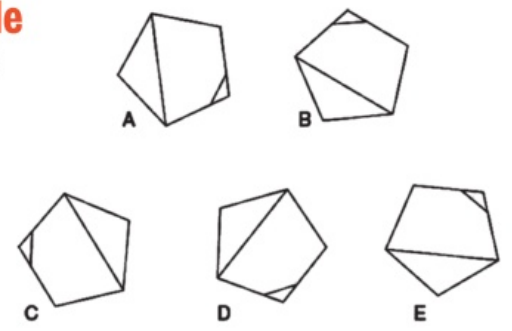
1 Tecal; 6 Neigh;
7 In die; 8 Eg set;
9 Froth

DOWN

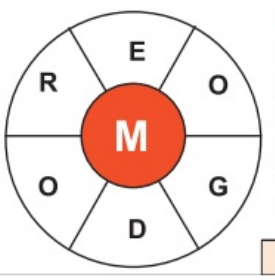
1 Fiche; 2 Log in;
3 E nerd; 4 Gaits;
5 The ET

Mensapuzzle

Which is the odd one out?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

10 Average; 12 Good; 14 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

3				8				9
8			6		2	3		
		2	9			8		
9	3					7		
	1		2		3		5	
		4					3	6
		5			6	2		
		6	3		5			7
1				4				5

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ = 1
2 3 5 9

Medium ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ = 12
6 6 8 8

Hard ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ = 39
2 7 8 3

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

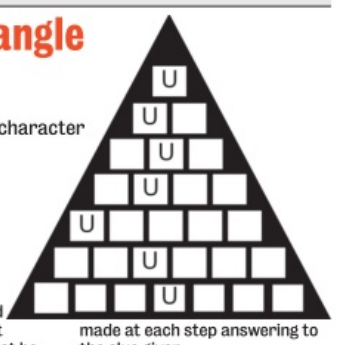
Differences: 1. Leg is moved. 2. Tarp is longer. 3. Paint can is larger. 4. Windowsill is different. 5. Foot is moved. 6. Top of doorway is different.

Riddler

Crack the code to find three Greek gods:
JACNVRB, MRXWHBDB, JYQAXMRCN.
(Hint: Code is sequential i.e. if you think A = G then it will follow that B = H, C = I, and so on)

Alpha triangle

1 21st letter
2 United Nations
3 Bank worry
4 Ancient alphabet character
5 Below
6 Hardened
7 Bore or tolerated



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

YOUR MOTHER SURE MADE A FOOL OF HERSELF AT THE PARTY LAST NIGHT!
HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE? YOU WEREN'T THERE
I HAVE WAYS OF KNOWING
GROAN!
5-2

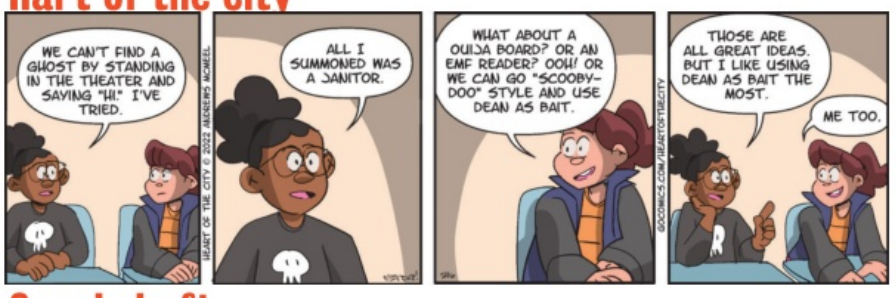
Bizarrotrip

Wayno & PIRRO. 5-12-22
©2022 BIZARRO STUDIOS
Dist. by King Features
Once your hostile takeover is complete, my partner will root out any heretics.
MERGERS & INQUISITIONS
BIZARRO.COM

Diamond Lil

YOU'RE NOT WEARING YOUR NEW GLASSES
OH, I ONLY NEED THOSE FOR READING
WILL YOU LOOK AT THAT SUNBURNED TODDLER!
THAT'S A FIRE HYDRANT
©2022 creators.com 5/12
www.creators.com

Hart of the city


WE CAN'T FIND A GHOST BY STANDING IN THE THEATER AND SAYING "HI." I'VE TRIED.
ALL I SUMMONED WAS A JANITOR.
WHAT ABOUT A OUIJA BOARD? OR AN EMF READER? OOH! OR WE CAN GO "SCOOBY-DOO" STYLE AND USE DEAN AS BAIT.
THOSE ARE ALL GREAT IDEAS. BUT I LIKE USING DEAN AS BAIT THE MOST.
ME TOO.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2022 AKSHEMS MOHEB

Crankshaft

SEPTEMBER 11, 2018...
... AND THE NEXT MINUTE THE GRILL WAS GONE!
AFTER CALCULATING THE ORBIT OF THE BACKYARD GRILL AROUND THE SUN... ASTRONOMERS THINK THEY MAY HAVE FIGURED OUT THE POINT OF ORIGIN OF THE LAUNCH SITE!
5-9
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

NEWS
AND NOW, SHTINKY PUDDIN'
WITH AN OPINION PIECE.
NEWS COMMENTARY
WHATEVER.
THE VIEWS EXPRESSED IN THIS PROGRAM ARE THOSE OF THE SPEAKER AND DON'T NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS OF THIS STATION.
5/14

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
You may be happy and emit some sort of energy that will increase your prestige among people around you. You could be drawn towards intellectual study. You may also plan for higher studies to groom your career. Students may hear good news about competitive examinations.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
The day might start off dull for you, but evening onwards, you might be able to control the negativity. New people may connect you on the work front. You may try to revamp your business plans with them. It is advised to read documents before putting your signature on them.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
You may have control over your indecisiveness today. The health of your children will be better now. Your colleagues may be supportive in your work, which will convert to success in terms of a project. You can expect to get some incentives with your salary. Those related to dairy, water projects, grains, home maker art, and culture may do well.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you may be busy with family get-together or social events. Being polite with the people around you can boost your image in their eyes. You may spend money on buying some artefacts or household items. You are likely to hear some good news from one of your relatives.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may be happy as you are blessed by the moon. You will feel healthy, which may reflect in your way of working. You are likely to perform well in all areas of your life, which will improve your prestige. Your concentration might be very good today, and you can make some difficult decisions to grow your business.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today your vital power may slow down and old diseases may re-appear, making you upset. You are advised to avoid adventure tours or rash driving. You are also advised to avoid any type of legal matters. You could settle it out of the jury. Avoid arguments on worthless topics. You can plan for an overseas trip.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Your day will start out happy. At work, you may take quick calls, which will increase your management skills and seal future benefits. Expect some new sources of income to open up and boost your savings. With the help of your partner, you may invest some capital in business. Bonding with your spouse may improve, which may result in domestic harmony.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you could be busy on the work front, which can make you tired and unable to find time for a family get-together. You may be able to build your overseas network. You should be careful in terms of investments. Promotions could be on the cards.

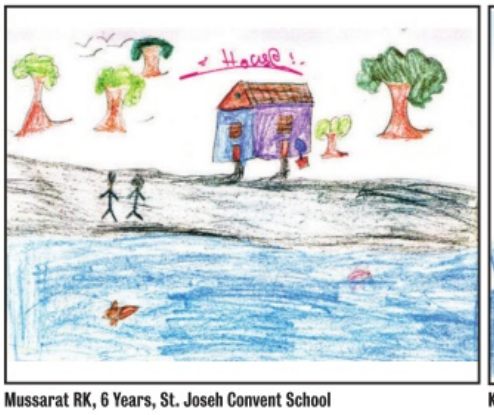
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Messy situations are under control now. Destiny is likely to be with you in terms of business gains. You may get some rewards for your hard work. It is a good time to restart postponed projects. You can expect peaceful spiritual travel. You could donate to charity.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today your moon is not in a good position and you may have health issues. You could face losses in business or investments. it is advised not to invest today, especially in things which don't have value. You should avoid being involved in controversies as it will pull you down negatively.

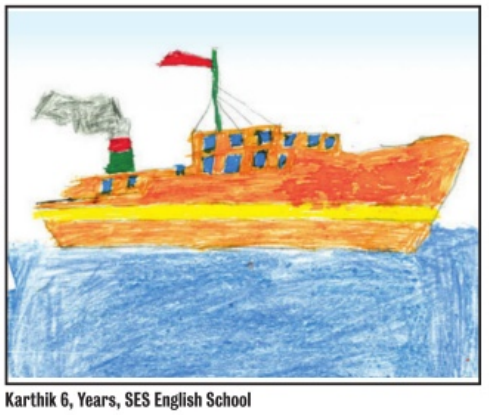
Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
You are blessed by the moon today. Expect good news in terms of work. Your domestic life is likely to be brimming with joy. You are advised to avoid arguments on worthless topics. Over-excitement can test your patience. You can take important decisions in making real estate investments. Students will be focused on their studies.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
The moon is on your side today. Love will be in the air in terms of your personal life. Singles may find a suitable match. You may do better in terms of work. Your friends and juniors may support you. Investments in gems and jewellery are likely to bring positive gains in the future. Keep an eye on the health of your elders.

KIDZONE



Mussarat RK, 6 Years, St. Joseh Convent School



Karthik 6, Years, SES English School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

BULL'S EYE
dome, doom, dorm, germ, groom, GROOMED, mode, mood, mooed, moor, moored, more, room, roomed

RIDDLER
Artemis, Dionysus, Aphrodite (A becomes R, B becomes S, etc.)

QUOTE UNCODE
Fear is pain arising from the anticipation of evil.

FAST FIVE

C	L	E	A	T
H	I	N	G	E
E	G	G	S	T
I	N	D	I	E
F	O	R	T	H

STRIKE OUT

P	U	R	I	T	A	N		A	C	I	D	S		
I		E		E		E	I	G	H	T		H		
C	A	S	C	A	D	E		A	I	S	L	E		
K		T		M		D		E				E		
E	V	A	N	S		E	G	G	F	L	I	P		
T		T		I	D	E	A			A				
S	C	E	N	E	S		A	T	E	A	S	E		
	U		L	A	I	R		P			M			
E	M	P	L	O	Y	S		A	B	A	S	E		
		A		A		C		C		R				
E	D	E	M	A		B	A	C	H	U	S			
E		V		A	G	U	E		R		E	O		
R	E	S	E		L	E	A	D	S	I	N			

QUICK

H	O	T	W	A	T	E	R		S	T	A	Y		
O		R		I		O		R		E				
G	R	U	B		F	O	O	T	B	A	L	L		
W		M		F		T		V		L				
A	S	P	E	R	S	E		J	E	A	N	S		
S		E		T		O		R						
H	E	S	I	T	A	N	T		T	O	I	T		
U	D	D	E	R		A	N	U	S	H	K	A		
T		O		E		M						T		
H	O	M	A	G	E		S	M	E	L	L	S		
S		O		A		I								
R	A	V	S		C	O	M	P	O	S	E	R		

MENSA PUZZLE
B: the rest are the same figure rotated;

SOLVE IN 1M
sequence is
1/2 = .5
(1+3)/2 = 4/2 = 2
(1+3+7)/2 = 13/2 = 6.5
(1+3+7+2+3+7+3)/2 = 40/2 = 20
Similarly
(1+3+7+2+3+7+3+4)/2 = 121/2 = 60.6

SUDOKU

1	2	3	7	4	9	6	8	5
4	8	6	3	2	5	1	9	7
7	9	5	8	1	6	2	4	3
2	5	4	1	7	8	9	3	6
6	1	7	2	9	3	4	5	8
9	3	8	5	6	4	7	1	2
5	7	2	9	3	1	8	6	4
8	4	9	6	5	2	3	7	1
3	6	1	4	8	7	5	2	9

ALPHA TRIANGLE
U, UN, Run, Rune, Under, Entured, Endured.

GO FIGURE
Easy
3 + 5 + 2 – 9 = 1
Medium
6 – 8 + 6 + 8 = 12
Hard
7 + 8 – 2 x 3 = 39

LOOP

KAKURO

		4	3	1		8	9	
	7	5	2	9	6	7	1	8
4	1	3		6	9	4		2
9	2	7		1	3		6	5
3		8	3	9	2	1	7	9
	9	5	8		9	4	6	8
		9	1	4		1	7	9

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 # Kevin Spacey pleads not guilty
Hollywood actor Kevin Spacey on Thursday arrived at London's Old Bailey court and pleaded not guilty to sexual assault charges

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Now that's twinning

Internet has found a Deepika lookalike and it can't keep still

Actress Deepika Padukone never fails to charm her fans with solid performances and ethereal beauty. Every time she drops a picture on social media, it goes viral in no time. This time, it's her lookalike who has caught everyone's attention. The internet has found Deepika's 'twin' Rijuta Ghosh Deb.

Netizens feel she resembles Deepika and they just can't stop making comparisons. Her social media posts have been flooded with comments.

One of the users wrote, "At first I thought she's Deepika Padukone." Another user wrote, "Deepika Padukone's doppelganger." Some said that her eyes look like Deepika while others asked, "Is it Deepika's twin?"

Meanwhile, Deepika recently returned to Mumbai after spending quality time with husband Ranveer Singh in Hawaii. The duo celebrated Ranveer's birthday in an exotic location. Deepika offered a glimpse of their dreamy vacation recently. Along with the pictures, she wrote, "May our lives be blessed with experiences & adventures in abundance..."

On the work front, Deepika was busy shooting for 'Project K' with Prabhas. She also has 'Pathaan' with Shah Rukh Khan and John Abraham. Apart from these, she will be seen in 'The Intern' remake and 'Fighter'.

Cardio in the night

Bollywood actor Sonakshi Sinha, on Wednesday, shared her late-night cardio experience through a funny video. Taking to Instagram, the 'Dabangg' actor shared a boomerang video on her Instagram story, in which she can be seen walking on a treadmill with a funny crying filter applied to her face.

The 'Noor' actor captioned the video, "Late night cardio got me like..." followed by an angry avatar.

Earlier, the actor had faced a lot of backlash on social media due to her weight, every time she stood strong and gave it back to the trollers for mocking her.

The 'Rowdy Rathore' actor recently stepped into the business world with her new nail brand 'Soezi'.

Veteran actor Shatrughan Sinha's daughter, actor Sonakshi Sinha made her Bollywood debut alongside Salman Khan in 'Dabangg'.

Meanwhile, the 'Akira' actor will be soon marking her OTT debut with upcoming series 'Fallen' in which she plays the role of a cop for the first time in her career. The series will stream later this year.

Apart from this she also has 'Double XL' alongside Huma Qureshi and her rumoured boyfriend Zaheer Iqbal. The official release date of the film is still awaited. A horror comedy film 'Kakuda' along with Riteish Deshmukh and Saqib Saleem.

Dressed up
Nine glamorous dresses from Ananya Panday's wardrobe that you can bookmark for the party season

Watch this story come alive by pointing your phone camera at the QR code

Dhanush at premiere with sons

Superstar Dhanush suited up in style and hit the grey carpet for the world premiere of his Hollywood film 'The Gray Man'. Rocking a sharp tux, the actor made his big appearance with his two sons - Yathra and Linga - by his side. This is believed to be the star kids' first international red carpet appearance. Singing praise of the two boys, Dhanush said, "When you realise they have completely stolen the show from you. At #TheGrayMan premiere with Yathra and Linga."

Dhanush, whose character in 'The Gray Man' is described as a "lethal force", talked about his experience working on the much-anticipated action thriller. Dhanush said in a video, "It was incredible. This movie is a roller coaster, it has everything, action, drama, pace and a big chase. I am very grateful that I got to do a modest role in this movie full of incredible people."

The star will soon be joined by his directors Joe and Anthony Russo for the India premiere.

—ETimes

Starry embrace

Apparently, Shah Rukh Khan and Amitabh Bachchan could be coming together for Don 3. Fans couldn't contain their excitement and have been keen on watching them share the big screen together. Amid all this, an old video of the duo went viral where both the superstars were seen sharing a warm hug.

The video seems to be dated from the early 2000s. Then, to be Father-in-law Amitabh Bachchan could be seen accompanying Aishwarya Rai. Aishwarya's fiance Abhishek Bachchan was also seen present there. Shah Rukh Khan on the other hand was being accompanied by Deepika Padukone.

Speaking of Don 3, a rumour had started just after Big B shared a photo of a crowd outside a theatre after his film Don, which had been released in 1978. He even shared a photo of him with Shah Rukh.

ETimes later confirmed that producers Excel Entertainment are indeed planning a sequel to Don and Don 2. Don 3 has a fair chance of being the film that reunites senior Don, Mr Bachchan and his successor SRK.

ETimes